H.R. 692 - Army Specialist Joseph P. Micks Federal Flag Code Amendment Act of 2007

Floor Situation

H.R. 692 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Bart Stupak (D-MI) on January 24, 2007. The bill was ordered to be reported from the Committee on the Judiciary, by voice vote, on April 25, 2007.

H.R. 692 is expected to be considered on May 15, 2007.

Background

Army Specialist Micks of the 54th Engineer Battalion, 130th Engineer Brigade, Warner Barracks, Bamberg, Germany, was killed on July 8, 2006 by an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle during combat operations in Ar Ramadi, Iraq. He was a resident of Rep. Stupak's district in Michigan.

Section 7(m) of title 4 of the United States Code details the criteria of when the National flag may be flown at half-staff. Pursuant to this section, the National Flag may be flown at half-staff following the deaths of Presidents, Governors, the Vice-President, Members of Congress, Supreme Court Justices, and the Secretary of an executive or military department.

Summary

H.R. 692 grants the authority to Governors of States, territories, possession, or the mayor of the District of Columbia to order the National flag to be flown at half-staff following the death of a member of the Armed Services while serving in active duty from that area. When a governor or the Mayor of the District of Columbia orders this proclamation, all National flags flown at Federal installations must be flown at half-staff.

Cost

"CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 692 would have no significant cost. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues." CBO Cost Estimate

Staff Contact:

For questions or further information contact Chris Vieson at (202) 226-2302.